

Appln. No. 10/826,013

Attorney Docket No. 10541-1991  
V203-0314**I. Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) An adjustment assembly for an instrument panel, the adjustment assembly comprising:

a first contact member having a contact portion;

a second contact member having a contact portion; and

an adjustment member having a plurality of generally equally-spaced protrusions located along a generally circular, continuous path and a plurality of troughs located between adjacent protrusions;

wherein the protrusions are configured to selectively engage the contact portion of the first contact member and induce a first electrical connection and are configured to selectively engage the contact portion of the second contact member and induce a second electrical connection;

wherein the troughs receive the first contact member when the first electrical connection is disconnected and receive the second contact member when the second electrical connection is disconnected;

wherein at least one of the first contact member and the second contact member is configured to bias the adjustment member towards an equilibrium position.

2. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 1, wherein the contact portion of the first contact member includes a mating surface.

3. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 2, wherein the adjustment member includes a mating surface, wherein the mating surface of the first contact member and the mating surface of the adjustment member cooperate to form a mating connection.

4. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 1, further comprising a bracket configured to rotatably receive the adjustment member.

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5. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 4, wherein the adjustment member includes a plurality of connector arms configured to form a snap-fit connection with the bracket.

6. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 1, wherein the first contact member and the second contact member are comprised of plastic material.

7. (Currently Amended) An adjustment assembly for an instrument panel, the adjustment assembly comprising:

a first contact member having a contact portion; and

a adjustment member having a first end and a second end, the second end defining a generally wave-shaped surface extending ~~substantially~~ completely continuously along a circular path and having a plurality of peaks and a plurality of troughs located between adjacent peaks;

wherein the peaks are configured to selectively engage the contact portion of the first contact member inducing a first electrical connection and wherein the troughs receive the first contact member when the first electrical connection is disconnected.

8. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 7, further comprising a second contact member having a contact portion, wherein the peaks are configured to selectively engage the contact portion of the second contact member inducing a second electrical connection.

9. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 8, wherein a first peak of the plurality of peaks and a second peak of the plurality of peaks are adjacent to each other and are located a first distance from each other, the contact portion of the first contact member and the contact portion of the second contact member are located a second distance from each other, and the first distance is greater than the second distance.

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10. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 8, wherein the adjustment member has a plurality of equilibrium positions with respect to the first contact member and the second contact member.

11. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 8, wherein the adjustment member includes a knob.

12. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 11, wherein the first contact member includes an arm portion configured to pivot about a base portion and the second contact member includes an arm portion configured to pivot about a base portion.

13. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 7, wherein the contact portion of the first contact member includes a mating surface.

14. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 13, wherein the adjustment member includes a mating surface, wherein the mating surface of the first contact member and the mating surface of the adjustment member cooperate to form a mating connection.

15. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 14, wherein the mating surface of the first contact member is a generally spherical projection and the mating surface of the adjustment member is a generally spherical receptacle.

16. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 7, wherein the generally wave-shaped surface is generally defined by a sinusoidal function.

17. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 7, further comprising a bracket configured to rotatably receive the adjustment member.

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18. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 17, wherein the adjustment member includes a plurality of connector arms configured to form a snap-fit connection with the bracket.

19. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 8, wherein the first contact member and the second contact member are comprised of plastic material.

20. (Currently Amended) A knob for an instrument panel, the knob comprising:

a body portion having a generally cylindrical shape and a longitudinal axis;

a first end portion adjacent to the body portion; and

a second end portion adjacent to the body portion, the second end portion defining a generally wave-shaped surface extending ~~substantially~~ completely continuously along a circular path and having a plurality of peaks and a plurality of troughs;

wherein the body portion is located between the first end portion and the second end portion and the peaks extend away from the body portion in a direction generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of the body portion.

21. (Original) The knob of claim 20, the second end portion defining at least one generally hemispherical depression located adjacent to at least one of the plurality of troughs.

22. (Original) The knob of claim 21, further comprising:

a plurality of connector arms connected to the body portion and extending in a direction generally parallel to the longitudinal axis; and

a tab portion connected to at least one of the connector arms and extending in a direction generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

23. (Original) The adjustment assembly of claim 22, wherein the generally wave-shaped surface is generally defined by a sinusoidal function.